



June 18, 2007

Dear Local Officials and Interested Parties,

This letter provides updated information from the Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS). We will continue to send you periodic status reports and other current information. If you prefer not to receive these updates, please contact Melinda Steinert at (916) 651-7744 or msteinert@parks.ca.gov.

UPDATE ON ANNUAL GRANT PROGRAM

Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Application Filing Deadline

Applications for the next cycle must be postmarked or delivered no later than October 1, 2007.

Send non-motorized project applications to:

California State Parks
Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS)
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Send motorized project applications to:

California State Parks
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVRD)
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

RTP Procedural Guide

The RTP Procedural Guide has been updated to reflect federal agency participation in the program as eligible applicants. The "Final Draft – January 25, 2007" RTP Procedural Guide provides an overview of the program and application requirements for the October 1, 2007 application filing deadline. To access this guide on the OGALS website, go to www.parks.ca.gov, click on "Grants & Bond Acts" and follow the links to the Recreational Trails Program. If you need a hard-copy version of the guide, please contact OGALS at (916) 653-7423 to request a copy.

Technical Assistance Workshops regarding Federal Application Requirements

RTP applicants who have received a letter from either OGALS or OHMVRD stating that their project has been recommended for funding are invited to attend an upcoming technical assistance workshop to learn more about how to comply with the federal RTP application requirements.

Workshops will provide an in-depth overview of the:

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Historic Preservation Act (also known as Section 106)
- Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) process

In addition to the federal appraisal requirement for acquisition projects:

- Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA).

More information about workshop dates and locations will be posted on the OGALS website as soon as it is available. Questions about meeting the federal application requirements for non-motorized projects can be directed to Project Officer Ted Novack at tnova@parks.ca.gov or (916) 651-7742. Questions about meeting the federal application requirements for motorized projects can be directed to Kenney Glaspie at kglas@parks.ca.gov or (916) 324-1567.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Notice of Rescission

This spring, FHWA notified each state that federal law (Division B, Title 1, Chapter 10 of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2007, Public Law 110-5) required a rescission of unobligated Federal-aid highway funds. (Funds for each project are considered unobligated until FHWA approves the project for funding.) This rescission affected \$2,103,982 of California's unobligated RTP funds. Since state law splits California's funds 70/30, \$1,472,787 of non-motorized RTP unobligated funds were impacted by this rescission and \$631,195 motorized RTP unobligated funds were impacted.

The state Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) identified excess unobligated funds from previous fiscal years to account for the majority of the rescission amount. To account for the remainder of funds that needed to be rescinded, DPR was able to limit impact to one project, which is a non-motorized project sponsored by the DPR at Humboldt Redwoods State Park. No other RTP projects in California have been impacted by this rescission.

For the future, DPR encourages a quicker rate of obligation and requires that all RTP applicants whose projects are recommended for funding complete the above mentioned federal application requirements within one year from the date of project selection announcement. Quicker rates of obligation will assist in minimizing program impacts in the event that future rescissions occur. Questions about this rescission can be directed to Manager Jean Lacher at jlach@parks.ca.gov or (916) 653-6160.

Reminders

If you plan to make changes to a RTP project, you should contact your Project Officer immediately. A list of all non-motorized project officers can be found on the State Parks' website, www.parks.ca.gov by following the link to "Grants and Bond Acts."

Program Contacts

If you have questions about this letter or the RTP in general, please contact RTP Acting Supervisor Richard Rendón at rrend@parks.ca.gov or (916) 651-7600. Questions

about the motorized portion of the RTP can be directed to Kenney Glaspie at kglas@parks.ca.gov or (916) 324-1567.

Sincerely,

Patti Keating, Chief
Office of Grants and Local Services

cc: Phil Jenkins, Chief, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
Kenney Glaspie, Park Maintenance Chief II,
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
All OGALS